



*BOROUGH OF BURSLEM.*

*Annual Report*

*OF THE*

*Medical Officer of Health,  
for 1904.*

BURSLEM :

J. DAWSON, CAXTON PRESS, TOP OF NEWCASTLE STREET.

1905.





# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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To the TOWN COUNCIL of the  
BOROUGH OF BURSLEM,  
For the Year 1904.

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GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present you with my Fourth Annual Report (from January 1st to December 31st, 1904), on the sanitary condition of the Borough of Burslem.

**Area.**—A survey made during the year proved the area of the Borough to be 1862 acres, instead of 2585 which had previously been given as the correct figure.

**Population.**—The estimated population to the middle of the year was 40,950.

The density of the population is 21·9 per acre.

**New Houses.**—72 new houses have been built this year (against 76 last year).

North Ward	...	...	50
East Ward	...	...	22
South Ward	...	...	0
			<hr/>
			72

which makes the number of houses in the Borough 8329.

**Births.**—The number of births during the year was 1480 (743 males, 737 females) showing an increase of 46 on the number last year. The birth rate was 36·1 per 1000, an increase of 0·5 per 1000 on the rate of last year, but a decrease of 2·0 on the mean rate for the last 10 years. The birth rate for England and Wales was 27·9 per 1000, which is 0·5 per 1000 below the rate for 1903, and lower than the rate of any other year on record; compared with the mean rate for the last 10 years (1894 to 1903) the birth rate in 1904 shows a decrease of 1·3 per 1000.

**Still-Births.**—The interments of 89 still-born children have been registered at the Borough Cemetery during the year.

**Vaccination.**—Of the 1480 births there were 993 successfully vaccinated.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in Borough.				Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in Boro.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District		
		Number	Rate per 1000 of Population	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in Boro.	No.	Rate per 1000 of Populat'n
				Number	Rate per 1000 of Births registered	Number	Rate per 1000 of Populat'n					
1894	33367	1238	37.1	236	190	645	19.0	20	5	640	19.0	
1895	33799	1299	38.4	237	182	700	20.6	19	1	699	20.6	
1896	34231	1356	39.6	294	216	704	20.5	14		704	20.5	
1897	34663	1336	38.5	310	232	853	24.5	29	3	850	24.1	
1898	35095	1362	38.8	273	200	726	20.7	22	1	728	20.7	
1899	35527	1408	39.6	278	197	818	22.9	18	4	814	22.9	
1900	35959	1481	41.1	341	230	1016	28.2	21	3	1054	25.7	
1901	38934	1367	35.1	286	209	871	22.3	21	4	911	23.3	
1902	39609	1493	37.6	258	172	754	19.0	25		803	20.2	
1903	40278	1434	35.6	262	182	695	17.2	14	2	745	18.4	
Averages for years 1894-1903	36146	1377	38.1	277	201	778	21.4	20	2	794	21.5	
1904	40950	1480	36.1	288	194	818	19.9	22	3	861	21.0	

1904.

Months	BIRTHS.				DEATHS.	
	Number	Rate per 1000	Males	Females	Number	Rate per 1000
January ... ..	128	37·7	70	58	60	17·7
February ... ..	117	34·4	58	59	52	15·3
March ... ..	116	34·1	61	55	64	18·8
April ... ..	123	36·1	55	68	56	16·4
May .. ..	122	35·7	62	60	55	16·1
June ... ..	131	38·1	67	64	48	13·4
July ... ..	127	37·1	69	58	56	16·3
August ... ..	129	37·6	54	75	81	23·6
September ... ..	123	35·8	54	69	63	18·3
October ... ..	136	39·6	76	60	72	20·9
November ... ..	126	36·6	63	63	84	24·2
December ... ..	102	29·6	54	48	127	36·9
Totals ... ..	1480	36·1	743	737	818	19·9

**Deaths.**—The deaths in the Borough were 818, a rate per 1000 of 19·9; 22 of these occurred at the Haywood Hospital, three of which did not belong to the Borough so must be subtracted. There were in addition 46 deaths of residents in public institutions beyond the district, *i.e.*—

Chell Workhouse	...	31
Bradwell Sanatorium	...	9



North Staffs. Infirmary ...	6
Bagnall Small-pox Hospital	—
	—
	46

bringing the nett deaths to 861, and the rate to 21·0 per 1000.

In 1903 the nett deaths were 745, and the rate 18·4 per 1000, which was the lowest on record.

The mean rate for the 10 years 1893 to 1904 is 21·5.

The death rate for England and Wales for 1904 was 16·2 per 1000, which is 0·8 above the rate in 1903. The mean rate for the 10 years 1894 to 1903 was 17·2.

**Uncertified Deaths.**—Of the 818 deaths registered in the Borough, there were 73 in which no death certificate was given by a medical practitioner; a 'Coroner's inquest' was held on 41—below I give the verdicts and ages of these.

There were two suicides, *i.e.*—

Drowning (unsound mind)	24 years
Hanging .....	68 years

There were 22 accidents, *i.e.*—

Burns .....	1, 3, 5, and 39 years
Burns in coal pit, 20, 24, & 33	„
Scalds .....	1 „
Crushed by fall of stone	
in pit.....	36 „
Fractured skull by fall of	
roof in pit.....	29 „
Fall of roof in pit.....	34 „
Fall from cart .....	45 „
Fall downstairs.....	50 „
„ „ fractured	
skull .....	49 „
Hemorrhage following fall	34 „
Drowning.....	5 & 11 „
Run over by wagon.....	4 „
„ „ railway truck	14 „
Poisoning .....	27 „
Overlaying.....	3 weeks
Injury to spine.....	48 years

And other causes—

Heart failure .....	36, 52, 59 years	
"    "    due to exces-		
sive drinking.....	34	"
Syncope.....	43	"
Convulsions...6 months, 1 & 1		"
"    of epileptic		
nature .....	6 days	
Fit .....	36 years	
Compression of brain due		
to hemorrhage .....	25	"
Diphtheria .....	9	"
Carbuncle .....	42	"
Blood poisoning caused by		
fracture of leg .....	44	"
Puerperal fever, and		
Septicæmia .....	30	"
Diarrhœa .....	1	"
Chronic Bronchitis .....	47	"

Of the 32 other cases where no inquest was held the registered cause of death was—

Premature birth .....	2, 12, 22 hours	
"    "    .....	1, 11 days	
Convulsions .....	3, 22	"
"    .....	1 month—4 cases	
"    .....	2	"
"    .....	4	" 3 cases
"    .....	6, 23 months	
Teething, Convulsions, 8, 10, 16		"
Heart failure .....	71 years	
Heart disease .....	75	"
Probably heart failure, 44, 51, 65		"
Syncope .....	63	"
Congenital Debility.....	2 months	
Weakness .....	15 hours	
Chronic Bronchitis .....	71 years	
Old Age, "    ....	78	"
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	21	"
Apoplexy .....	66	"



Causes of, and Ages at, Death during 1904  
Borough of Burslem.

CAUSES OF DEATH	All Ages.	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District
Smallpox .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .. .. .	21	5	15	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	22	—	13	8	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	25	9	15	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	14	1	7	5	1	—	—	—
Croup .. .. .	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .. .. .	13	—	—	2	3	8	—	3
Continued Fever .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic Influenza .. .. .	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Cholera .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea .. .. .	49	39	7	1	—	—	2	—
Enteritis .. .. .	34	21	6	3	2	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	6	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Erysipelas .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Septic Diseases .. .. .	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Phthisis .. .. .	52	1	—	6	9	34	2	—
Other Tubercular Diseases .. .. .	35	16	16	2	—	1	—	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease .. .. .	28	—	—	—	—	25	3	1
Bronchitis .. .. .	92	19	16	—	1	32	24	—
Pneumonia .. .. .	30	3	10	3	2	11	1	2
Pleurisy .. .. .	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Respiratory Diseases .. .. .	43	19	18	2	—	3	1	—
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	7	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
Venereal Diseases .. .. .	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth .. .. .	29	29	—	—	—	—	—	—
Childbirth .. .. .	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Heart Diseases .. .. .	57	1	—	1	3	36	16	—
Accidents .. .. .	23	1	4	4	2	12	—	10
Suicides .. .. .	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
All other causes .. .. .	271	124	33	10	3	44	57	6
All causes .. .. .	864	289	162	50	28	225	110	22

**Infant Mortality.**—The deaths of children under 1 year of age were 288, a mortality of 194 per 1000 births registered. Last year the mortality was 182 per 1000, and the mean rate for the 10 years 1894 to 1903 was 201 per 1000 births; so that this year's rate is 7 per 1000 below the mean rate for the previous 10 years.

For England and Wales the infant mortality was 146 per 1000 births—

For the 76 great towns.....	160
For the 142 smaller towns	154

For England and Wales the mean rate for the 10 years 1893 to 1904 was 155 per 1000 births.

It is seen how unfavourably Burslem compares with other districts.

**The Zymotic Death-rate.**—There were 169 deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases, as the following table shows—

Small-pox.....	—
Scarlet fever.....	18
Diphtheria .....	13
Measles... ..	21
Typhoid .....	9
Whooping Cough .....	25
Diarrhœa .....	83

a mortality of 4·1 per 1000 living, against 1·6, 3·0, and 4·5 respectively in the three preceding years.

For England and Wales the rate was 1·9 per 1000 living, against 2·0, 1·6, and 1·4 respectively in the three preceding years.

The zymotic death-rate for the  
76 great towns was 2·4 and the  
142 smaller „ „ 2·0

It is again seen how unfavourably Burslem compares with other districts.

**Scarlet fever.**—We have to go back five years to find as many deaths from Scarlet fever as there are this year, the death rate per 1000 living being 0·4.

For England and Wales, the 76 great towns, and 142 smaller towns the rate was 0·1 per 1000 living.

**Diphtheria.**—I append table shewing the death rate from Diphtheria per 1000 living for the last six years—

1899	...	1·0	per 1000 living
1900	...	2·2	„ „
1901	...	1·6	„ „
1902	...	0·8	„ „
1903	...	0·2	„ „
1904	...	0·3	„ „

For England and Wales, the 76 great towns, and 142 smaller towns the rate was 0·1 per 1000 living.

**Measles.**—This disease has been very prevalent, resulting in 21 deaths.

It is not notifiable in this Borough; I recommended the Sanitary Committee to include it amongst the notifiable diseases, but they rejected the proposal chiefly on account of the expense that isolation in hospital would entail, without which they considered notification of little use; by notification I hoped to obtain early information, and so to exclude contacts from school.

Judged by the number of deaths, since 1890 epidemics of Measles have occurred in alternate years, with the exception of 1894 and 1895, when two inter-epidemic years were consecutive.

The death rate this year is 0·5 per 1000 living, for England and Wales the rate is 0·3, for 76 great towns 0·4, and in 142 smaller towns 0·3.

**Whooping Cough.**—This disease has also been very prevalent, resulting in 25 deaths. The death rate was 0·6 per 1000 living, double the rate for England and Wales.

**Typhoid fever.**—The number of deaths, nine, has only been exceeded three times since 1890. On each occasion the number of deaths was ten.

The death rate per 1000 living was 0·2, being double the rate for the great and smaller towns.

**Diarrhœa.**—The number of deaths attributed to diarrhœa and enteritis are 83, the largest for which I can find record; this was no doubt due to the long and hot summer, and gives a death rate per 1000 living of 2·0; for the 76 great towns the rate was 1·2.

Amongst deaths from other zymotic diseases were—

Puerperal fever ... ..	6
Influenza ..... .	3

the latter disease became prevalent towards the end of the year.

I append a table shewing since 1890—

- (1st) The number of deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases.
- (2nd) The zymotic death rate per 1000 living both for Burslem and the great towns.
- (3rd) The number of deaths from Cancer and Phthisis.
- (4th) The infant mortality per 1000 births registered.

# DEATHS from Principal Zymotic Diseases.

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
Measles ..	1	45	1	37	2	10	46	8	37	1	35	4	27	1	21
Scarlet Fever ..	7	12	4	18	6	5	6	19	24	21	16	5	7	..	18
Diphtheria ..	1	1	..	..	2	7	16	5	17	39	83	63	33	14	13
Whooping Cough ..	31	18	44	5	18	15	14	79	9	4	18	27	7	6	25
Typhoid Fever ..	10	10	6	4	1	6	9	7	2	5	8	10	6	5	9
Diarrhoea ..	35	23	30	56	27	53	66	80	69	63	34	67	41	42	49
Totals ..	85	108	85	120	56	96	157	198	158	133	194	176	121	72	135

10

Rate per 1000 ..	..	3.1	3.4	2.6	3.6	1.6	2.6	4.3	5.6	4.5	3.7	5.3	4.5	3.0	1.6	3.2
Rate for Great Towns ..	..	2.0x	2.4	1.9x	3.2	2.4	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.6	1.5xx	1.4xx	2.4	2.4
Cancer ..	..	17	7	26	20	13	16	21	17	27	25	15	33	27	28	28
Plithisis ..	..	62	45	44	33	38	39	48	45	43	43	73	38	56	46	46
Infant Mortality per 1000 Births registered ..	..	217	171	189	191	190	182	216	232	200	197	230	209	172	182	194

xx Rate for 103 Smaller Towns.

x Rate for England and Wales.

**Statistics of Notifiable Disease.**—There were 583 notifications of infectious disease received during the year. (Besides these a case of Typhoid and of Diphtheria were notified a second time by a different medical man).

This number has only been exceeded twice since 1890, *i.e.*—

1899.....	641 cases
1900.....	665 „

This large total is accounted for by 415 cases of Scarlet fever; only three times since 1890 have the cases of Scarlet fever reached 400 in the same year, *i.e.*—

1893 .....	415 cases of Scarlet fever
1898.....	401 „ „
1899.....	481 „ „

The following table shews the number of cases removed to the Sanatorium, the number of deaths there, and the case mortality—

	No. Removed	Deaths	Case mortality
Scarlet fever	67	4	5·9 %
Diphtheria	15	1	6·6 „
Typhoid	15	4	26·6 „
	<hr/> 97		

The next table gives the same particulars for the cases nursed at home—

	No. nursed at home	Deaths	Case mortality
Scarlet fever	348	18	5·1 %
Diphtheria	65	13	20·0 „
Typhoid	13	6	46·1 „
	<hr/> 426		

In addition four cases were removed to the Haywood Hospital, and three died; one was moribund on admission and died within 24 hours, another died within a few days, and the third developed Phthisis.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED  
(at all ages) during 1904.

			At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards
Smallpox	..	..	12	..	2	..	2	7	1
Cholera	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	..	..	80	2	32	36	7	3	..
Membranous Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	30	1	2	..	3	23	1
Scarlet Fever	..	..	415	6	163	230	14	2	..
Typhus Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	..	..	32	..	2	10	7	13	..
Relapsing Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	13	..	..	..	4	9	..
Plague	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	..	583	9	201	276	37	58	2



These tables shew the value of Hospital treatment in the reduction of the case mortality in Diphtheria and Typhoid, both of which diseases require careful nursing.

86 cases of Scarlet fever refused removal				
43	„	Diphtheria	„	„
8	„	Typhoid	„	„
8	„	Diphtheria were too young for removal		
36	„	Scarlet fever	„	„

223 cases of Scarlet fever and 6 of Diphtheria could not be removed as the Sanatorium was full, but of these 79 cases of scarlet fever and 2 of Diphtheria were unwilling to be removed.

Referring to cases of Scarlet fever, Diphtheria and Typhoid, the following shews percentage of cases removed to Sanatorium during the last eight years—

1897.....	16 %
1898 ... ..	26 „
1899... ..	24 „
1900.....	14 „
1901.....	20 „
1902.....	24 „
1903.. ..	31 „
1904 .....	18 „

The number of cases removed to the Sanatorium each year since 1890 is shewn on the following table.

TABLE OF CASES NOTIFIED under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act,  
(adopted May 1st, 1890).

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Smallpox ..	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53	12
Scarlet Fever	93	236	124	415	157	95	184	326	401	481	243	100	118	43	417
Diphtheria	3	12	7	15	11	6	14	6	28	94	341	268	186	91	81
Typhoid ..	21	50	28	37	..	34	45	36	16	44	38	50	31	20	33
Puerperal Fever	1	..	2	4	1	1	..	4	6	5	8	6	6	7	13
Erysipelas ..	13	24	23	50	16	16	14	17	18	15	35	36	21	17	30
Continued Fever	10	18	3	6	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	1
Totals	141	340	187	518	214	152	258	399	469	641	665	462	362	231	587
Cases removed to Sanatorium	1	9	9	.	20	7	29	62	119	151	93	86	67	48	97
Ditto Bucknall														16	
Ditto Bagnall														52	12

**Small-pox.**—I am glad to record only 12 cases (with no deaths) against 53 last year, *i.e.*

July . . . . .	5 cases
August . . . . .	1 „
September . . . . .	4 „
October . . . . .	2 „
	<hr/>
	12

These occurred in the following streets—

Charles Street . . . . .	4 (3 in one house)
Church Street . . . . .	3 (2 „ „ )
Sneyd Street . . . . .	1
Bourne's Bank . . . . .	1
Howard Street . . . . .	1
Davenport Square . . . . .	1
Brindley Street . . . . .	1

As last year more than half the cases occurred in persons above 25 years of age. All cases were at once removed to Bagnall Small-pox Hospital, their houses thoroughly disinfected, the contacts vaccinated and kept in quarantine for a fortnight and their food supplied by the Corporation.

I regret to say that several infants are being vaccinated with only one mark, which protects for only a short period. This is a matter of great public importance, in view of the expense that epidemics of Small-pox cause.

**Scarlet fever.**—It is a matter for great regret that we have been able to remove so few cases. I give a table which shews that we have been unable to remove as many cases to the Sanatorium during the year as was done in the two previous epidemic years 1898 and 1899.

	No. notified	No. removed	percentage
1898	401	114	28
1899	481	146	30
1904	415	67	16

**Diphtheria.**—I am glad to report a decrease in the number of cases of Diphtheria on the previous five years. The following table shews the incidence per 1000 living and the case mortality of Diphtheria during the last seven years—

		Incidence		Case mortality
1898	...	0.7	...	60
1899	...	2.6	...	41
1900	...	8.9	...	24
1901		6.8	..	23
1902	...	4.6		17
1903	...	2.2	...	15
1904	...	1.9	..	16

During the year two swabs were sent to Birmingham for bacteriological examination in two cases of suspected Diphtheria, each time with negative result.

**Anti-toxin.**—Of those nursed at home 45 had anti-toxin and 9 died, a mortality of 20 %; and 19 had no anti-toxin and 5 died, a mortality of 26 %; but in so many cases the anti-toxin was used only on the 3rd, 4th, and even 5th day of illness, when it is of very little benefit. Instead of 1500 units being the dose supplied free in suitable cases, I think it advisable to make it 2000 units.

In 1902 and 1903 the mortality when anti-toxin was not used was twice as high as when it was used.

**Factories and Workshops Act.**—Greater attention is being paid by the Sanitary Inspector to the carrying out of this Act. The number of inspections is very much larger, several written notices have been sent, and one prosecution has been undertaken. All defects found have been remedied. The number of workshops on register has increased from 49 and 84 in 1902 and 1903 respectively, to 110.

#### **Haywood Hospital.**—

Patients in Hospital at Dec. 31st, 1903    26  
 „    admitted during the year 1904 —

Surgical 229    |    307  
 Medical    78    |

Patients discharged cured.....	233
„ „ incurable . . . . .	4
„ „ relieved... . . . .	36
„ „ unrelieved . . . . .	1
„ „ at own request ..	6
„ removed to Workhouse Infirmary . . . . .	1
„ removed to Bradwell Sanatorium... . . . .	3
„ absconded.....	1
„ died . . . . .	23
„ in Hospital on Dec. 31st, 1904	26
Average number of days in Hospital	
for each patient... . . . .	26·3
Out-patients dressings . . . . .	8646
In-patients operations . . . . .	93
Sent to Convalescent Homes . . . . .	19
Accident cases . . . . .	82
Dental cases . . . . .	68

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CLARENCE H. MOTT.

*March 27th, 1905.*

## SANITARY OFFICE,

BURSLEM,

JANUARY, 1905.

*To the Mayor and Members of the Burslem Town Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my annual report for the year ending December 31st, 1904, of inspections made and work done in the Sanitary Department.

As in previous years the nuisances discovered were of a varied character and were of such a nature as not to require structural alterations to property; therefore, in the majority of cases, preliminary notices to the persons responsible was sufficient to bring about the desired result so that police court proceedings have been few. I am of opinion that the work of an Inspector regarding cleanliness to be of a lasting nature must be more of an educational than a coercive character.

It is very difficult to instil into the dwellers of slumland the lessons of cleanliness and so long as common yard and common sanitary conveniences exist it will be difficult to preserve cleanly conditions.

The following table shows the number and nature of nuisances discovered and dealt with during the year.

7510 visits and inspections were made with the result that 1216 nuisances were discovered, 1214 of which were remedied, the other two being two dilapidated houses which were closed.

357	choked and defective water-closets
250	choked and defective drains
152	defective and leaky privy cesspools
82	no and insufficient ashpit accommodation
58	structural defects in houses
19	dirty houses
14	overcrowding of houses
5	unfit for habitation
31	no water supply
7	insanitary pigsties



- 19 accumulations of filth
- 6 improper keeping of animals
- 4 offensive trades
- 4 dirty milk-shops
- 6 dirty bakehouses
- 4 dirty slaughter-houses
- 6 smoke nuisances
- 53 contraventions of Canal Boats Acts
- 42 defects in workshops
- 35 insanitary back and other premises
- 24 defective and no spouting
- 18 defective and insanitary kitchen sinks
- 5 insanitary urinals
- 3 defective Rochdale pans
- 2 dirty and overcrowded vans used as dwellings.

OBSERVATIONS OF SMOKE NUISANCES.—60 of these were taken during the year, but only in six cases was it necessary to complain, and on the whole there is less cause of complaint than formerly; one or two of the brick makers and sanitary pipe makers when vitrifying their bricks, &c., being the greatest sinners.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—The slaughter-houses in the Borough remain the same in number as last year, viz.: 22. The one in Highgate Inn yard not being used now; but one new licence has been granted in Station Street, Longport. These have all been visited monthly, and on the whole have been kept as far as possible in a satisfactory condition and only in six cases has it been necessary to complain.

Two cases of seizure of unsound meat have taken place during the year, viz.:—on February 13th, a body of beef with the organs belonging to same, the property of J. Jackson, of Wetley Rocks, who was fined, on the 26th, £15 and costs. And 30 pieces of meat from the shop 58, Newport Lane, the owner of same left the district and no proceedings were taken. The meat was condemned and destroyed in keeping with the Public Health Acts; the weight of the whole being 682 lbs. There were also two surrenders of meat during the year, the weight of which was 240 lbs. Also three boxes of mackerel weighing 336 lbs. Also 20 couples of Rabbits.

Walter Chatfield, Butcher, of 2, Nile Street, was fined 20/- and costs on April 7th for slaughtering on unlicensed premises.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS and MILK-SHOPS.—We have 93 of these registered this year compared with 85 last year. 36 being where milched cows are kept, nine of which are kept outside the Borough on farms and do not come under our survey only as vendors of milk. 300 visits have been paid to those in the town which were found clean and in order and only four complaints were necessary, viz.: that of requiring limewashing.

**Factories and Workshops.**—In keeping with the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, section 130, every known workshop in the Borough has been visited during the year. We have 67 Factories compared with 64 last year, and 109 workshops, last year 85.

641 visits have been paid to these, 205 to the factories and 436 to workshops. 20 complaints have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories regarding defects in the sanitary arrangements of some of these, all of which have had attention and been remedied; others have been discovered and put in order, six of which have been the want of lime-washing.

The following is a list of workshops—

Bakehouse ...	19	Plumbers ...	3
Millinery ...	14	Saddlers ...	2
Shoe repairing ...	12	Engraving ..	2
Cratemaking ...	9	Coopering ...	2
Wheelwrights ...	8	Marine Stores	2
Tailoring ...	7	Laundry ...	2
Decorating		Earthenware	
Earthenware	6	Eggs	2
Cabinet making	5	Crayon making	1
Joining ...	4	Card Board Boxes	1
Cycle repairing	4	Dye house ...	1
Sugar Boiling	1	Colour making	1
Modelling ...	1	Out worker ...	1
Total ..	110		

**Canal Boats.**—341 of these were inspected compared with 292 last year. Particulars of all inspections were recorded in keeping with the Canal Boats Acts. 53 contraventions were discovered on same compared with 38 last year and are as follows—

- 20 for absence of Certificate
- 10 general dilapidation
- 8 overcrowding
- 5 improper occupation
- 3 improperly marked
- 3 requiring re-painting and
- 2 each for dirty boat and absence of water vessel

The boats were occupied by 984 persons, 551 men or 56 per cent. of the whole, 200 women and 233 children.

The boats as a whole were clean, well ventilated and in good condition.

There was no infectious disease discovered on any boat.

It was only necessary to take proceedings in three cases, one being for obstruction, the captain refusing to have his boat examined for which he was fined 10/- and costs having to pay 22/6; and two

captains were summoned for the overcrowding of their boats each being fined 10/- and costs, both being bad cases.

SCAVENGING DEPARTMENT.—This work has been carried out very satisfactorily during the year, and while we have 700 houses in the Borough more than five years ago, we have only the same teams of men and horses, and it is no easy matter to meet all demands with our present staff, as with the removal of trade refuse—for the removal of which we are paid—in bulk the refuse is considerably more; however, second complaints have been the exception.

11,378 loads of ashes have been removed during the year: 4527 of which went to the Destructor, 3712 to the Free Tip, and 3067 to the Sytch; and 72 loads of manure to the meadows and park—an increase of 180 loads compared with last year.

The cost of removing same was £1181 15s. 7d. or  $2\frac{7}{8}$  of a penny per load.

During the year 40 loads of garbage have been removed and destroyed at the Destructor, weighing about 21 cwt. per load or 42 tons in total.

2,664 loads of nightsoil were removed, all of which with the exception of three loads were deposited on land. The three loads being from houses where typhoid existed were burned at the Destructor. The cost of removing this was £290 16s. 11d. or  $2\frac{1}{2}\frac{3}{8}$  of a penny per load.

Also 470 verminous and dirty beds and mattresses all of which were destroyed at the Destructor.

We have about 3500 ashbins and boxes in the Borough that are emptied fortnightly.

700 ashpits previously emptied have been disinfected, more especially where infectious disease existed.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—580 cases of these were notified during the year, all of which were investigated and reported upon to the Medical Officer of Health. The annexed table gives the number and nature of the diseases as compared with last year.

Nature of Disease	1903	1904	Removed 1903	Removed 1904
Scarlet Fever	43	416	14	67
Diphtheria	91	81	28	14
Typhoid	20	33	6 to Bradwell 5 to Haywood	16 to Bradwell 6 to Haywood
Small-pox	53	11	53	11
Puerperal fever	7	12	}	Many more would have been moved had beds been available.
Erysipelas	17	26		
Membranous croup	—	1		
Chicken-pox	156	—		

Many of the scarlet fever cases were very mild, the parents allowing the patients to run about while suffering from same. Their isolation being only partial, the contact cases were numerous, as the carelessness of the parents or friends in charge of patients in some cases being almost criminal.

Disinfectants were supplied and any sanitary defect found on visiting the premises was given attention. Where necessary drains were tested and well flushed with disinfectants.

366 rooms, 12 schools, 3 wards at the hospital, and 8 workshops were disinfected; also 790 articles of bedding and clothing at the steam disinfector.

On April 16th, I received a note from the Medical Officer of Health of Southampton, stating that Sergt. Thorley, of Tellwright Street, had come by the steamship "Silicia" from India, and that two cases of small-pox had occurred on board during the passage. He was kept under observation for 14 days but no small-pox occurred. All small-pox contacts were kept in quarantine and re-vaccinated and no repeat case occurred.

ORDERS FOR SANITARY WORK.—661 orders were got for the doing of sanitary work by the corporation workmen, viz —168 for the conversion of privy cesspools into the water carriage system, seven for the putting in of new drains, and 486 for the opening, cleansing and repairing of choked drains and water-closets.

#### NEW SEWERS, DRAINS, &c.

295 yards of new sewers  
 34 inspection chambers  
 34 ventilating shafts  
 8 fresh air inlets  
 6 manholes

66 conveniences at factories with 295 yards of drainage, three inspection chambers, one disconnecting trap and four ventilating shafts to same have been laid and erected.

197 privy cesspools have been converted into the water carriage system and 2819 yards of drains have been laid at various places in the Borough.

72 new houses have been erected, 66 with flush water-closets and six with earthenware cesspools as sanitary conveniences. 50 houses erected were in the north ward and 22 in the east, five houses in the north and one in the east ward have been re-certified after closing for habitation again.

LODGING-HOUSES.—120 visits have been paid to these, more especially while small-pox was about. But as they do not come under my purvey, I make no report; only to say they were clean.



VOID HOUSES.—In my opinion these are in excess of last year ; but 530 would be about the number.

LAND-SLIP.—This has been visited weekly, and while small subsidences occur occasionally and the refuse tipped sinks, the place is perfectly safe in my opinion.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACT.—No case under these Acts have occurred during the year. The Swine Fever Order has been in operation but no case of swine fever has occurred. Licenses have been granted for the removal of the same. Two dogs suspected of rabies were destroyed ; but on examination by the Veterinary they were found not to be suffering from same.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM MARTIN.

March, 1905.

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*To the Chairman, Members of the Sanitary Committee,  
and Members of the Town Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you a report of work done during the year 1904.

I have paid 2176 visits to cases of infectious disease, supplying them with disinfectants and leaflets and advising the people as to the isolation of the patients. In some cases it was regrettable to find how scant their knowledge was of the importance of isolation, often allowing other children to play with the patients and allowing visitors to come to their houses, and sometimes letting them see the patients themselves, and as long as this sort of thing goes on it is almost impossible to hope that the number of cases of infectious diseases in the Borough will be materially decreased

I have paid 1608 visits to cases, old and new, of neglected children. These, with the exception of 49, were old cases. Many of them, after frequent visiting and careful watching, have improved ; but some were very bad, so much so that 12 cases where, after frequent visits I found no improvement, I was compelled to report

to the Inspector of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The Inspector after visiting the cases sent warning notes to the parents, and I am glad to say that it was unnecessary to take further proceedings in any of them, improvement in every case taking place.

In thirteen cases I found the children being either improperly or insufficiently fed. A very great deal of the improper feeding of children is caused through ignorance on their mother's part. Many of them giving their young children just the food they themselves are taking believing, no doubt, that what was good for them was good for their children, and, I am afraid, remembering at the same time that it is much less trouble to do this than to prepare food especially for the children.

In 32 cases I found the children very dirty and verminous in their bodies and their clothing dirty and insufficient. The distress, which has, unfortunately, been so prevalent in the town during the year, may, and undoubtedly does, account for some of the poor clothing of the children; but there is a great deal of carelessness and negligence on the part of parents; their indifference in some cases being almost criminal and many of the children would be much better fed and clad if only parents would take more interest in their homes and their children.

I regret that the infantile mortality has been so high during the year, but as ignorance in feeding is undoubtedly responsible for many deaths in young children, I hope now that I am being furnished weekly with a return of the births in the town, I may, by visiting the parents and leaving cards with instructions on the feeding of children, be able to reduce the number of deaths from this cause.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ELIZABETH S. COTTON.

*March, 1905.*





